

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A patient activated temperature-controlled surface is disclosed. The patient activated temperature controlled surface includes a floor, a temperature source capable of supplying heat, cold, or both to the floor, and an actuator element for turning on and off the temperature source. The actuator element is activated and deactivated by the presence or absence, respectively, of the weight of the patient either directly or indirectly upon the actuator element. An animal bed is also disclosed. A method for providing comfort to a patient employing the patient activated temperature-controlled surface of this invention is also provided.